Annual Peace Service

Blessed Are The Peacemakers

(The following is the text from an address given by Rev. M. G. Stimpson, pastor of Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church, Appomattox, during the annual Peace Service at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Sunday, April 7, marking the 98th anniversary of the signing of terms of peace between the North and the South by Generals Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee.)

Scripture: Isaiah 2:2-4. Matthew 5:9 Sermon on the Mount

"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Who is sufficient to talk on peace, for the subject of peace is as complicated as life and as broad as the world.

The desires and dreams of peace come to us out of the past. Beautiful dreams they are, but are they only dreams? From the pen of another fairly close to our time comes the challenging question, "Is peace only a dream?" (Studdert - Kennedy)

"Is It a Dream?"

Is it a dream and nothing more — this faith. That nerves our brains to thought, our hands to work. For that great day when wars shall cease, and men shall live as brothers in a unity. Of love — live in a world made speedy? (Studdert - Kennedy)

Palm Sunday — 1865

Our minds today are turned back to that day? Palm Sunday, 1865, when a step toward peace was made. Two great gentlemen met and worked out an honorable peace agreement. Surely all of us who have read the account of that meeting in the old McLean house could not help but be moved by its description — as these two men of strength and stature, displayed their wisdom and selflessness — whereby a new day was made possible for the establishment of peace and unity in this — theirs and now, our beloved land.

However, out of those days, one may be reminded that the way of peace is not always easy; rather, often quite to the contrary.

As the historians tell us, those last days of the war were a nightmare to the armies of the South. They were torment to General Lee — to Lee as he corresponded with President Davis encouraging efforts toward working out an honorable treaty — every day and night of that long, disappointing march from Richmond to Appomattox — saying when surrender seemed the only alternative, "I would rather die a thousand deaths than have to go through with the surrender."

He could have ended it all in death and been relieved of it. He could have thrown all his men in the fight to the end. For the sake of his men and his beloved South, he chose the harder way for himself — to secure an honorable peace.

Challenge To Work For Peace

If the way seems yet hard for us today, the realization of those hard days of 1865 may give us some challenge not to lose heart.

We are challenged to be workers toward peace.

Because the way seems hard and long then, is no reason for giving up.

However, one asks, "Is there any sure way to peace?" There seem to be many who are afraid to work and sacrifice to build peace, for there is no guarantee that peace can ever become a reality or at least for long kept, so all efforts seem but a waste of energy.

The Man of Nazareth says there is a way to peace. That the failure of man to arrive at that way is but a failure of recognition and acceptance of that way. For the God who has made our world and man has provided a way in Love.

Palm Sunday, A.D. 30

We see Him on that Palm Sunday, A. D. 30, riding into Jerusalem on a colt, offering Himself as their King, with the power to give peace. But tears fall from His eyes as He says, "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. The days are coming when your enemies will dash you to the ground."

Robert E. Lee, called in for questioning by a committee in Washington in February, 1866, testified that it was his belief that the Civil War could have been avoided.

He said, "I believe that the position of the two sections which they held to each other was brought about by the politicians of the country; that the masses of the people, if they understood the real question, would have avoided it. It believe it was an unnecessary condition of affairs, and might have been avoided if forbearance and wisdom had been practiced on both sides."

In some of the other wars we have been engaged in since, other historians have pointed out that we as a nation might very well have played a more significant role in preventing war, rather than having had to win them.

This is not to say that when certain situations had arisen, and conditions become what they were, there was but little alternative but to fight, and to fight bravely and courageously and to win.

But the Man of Nazareth says that God has provided a way of peace for the world. A way that is open to every man.

At His birth — the angels sang — of peace on earth, good will toward men. He offered peace with God; peace with men.

No one could say His way of peace was easy — it required years of preparation. It required deep thinking, earnest praying, hard working.

He brought peace to men as He gave himself to eliminating ignorance and disease and poverty. He even gave his life on a Cross — but He brought peace to those He loved — and to the whole world.

Why didn't more accept Him and His peace when He was on earth? Seemingly, they wanted a Messiah who would do everything for them and thus absolve them of any responsibility, any change of living, in thinking, any toil, and labor on their part.

They wanted only to receive the advantages without accepting any responsibility

The way was offered — but they would not receive Him.

We have been told that the vast majority of Negroes during the Civil War were faithful to their masters and mistresses; rarely ever betraying the trust placed in them.

But they dreamed of the day of freedom — And when the day of peace came they thought the Millenium had come — the day of Paradise: for they thought they would no longer be required to labor — to toil. They could visualize no responsibility on their part for the future. The day of Peace became the beginning of disillusionment. Their bewilderment has lingered long.

Many peoples of the world have been given their freedom in our generation — the day of their liberation has been one of great celebration. But to their bewilderment they find conflicts and wars, hunger and suffering, and award not at all they had dreamed it would be — Their new masters become harder than the old.

We have not altogether escaped either. We have our freedom still. We live in the great new age of science. A new era of prosperity. Food enough for all. Every gadget under the sun.

We live in a time of great educational advancement, as well as flight into space, even — Social Security. And yet, our world seems to be falling apart. Fear grips us as our enemies threaten to bury us, and nothing, even at home, seems to work out right. We have anything but security.

Card Of Thanks

I wish to thank my friends, neighbors and relatives for the many ways in which they remembered me during my illness. Also for the visits, cards and phone calls. S. J. Evans. 4-11-1p

I wish to thank all my friends, neighbors and relatives for cards, gifts and flowers sent me while in the hospital and since my return home. Mrs. Jack Godsey.

O God, whose will is life and peace.
For all the sons of men
Let not our human hearts release
The sword's dread power again
Forgive our narrowness of mind;
Destroy false pride, we plead;
Deliver us and all mankind
From selfishness and greed.

O God, who called us to peace,
We join with everyone
Who does his part that wars may cease
And justice may be done.
Enable us to take the way,
The Prince of Peace hath trod;
Create the will to build each day
The family of God.

by Roland W. Schloerb

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to my friends, relatives and neighbors for their kindness shown me during my recent stay in the hospital. Also for the cards, visits and flowers. L. J. Morris. 4-11-1c

We wish to thank all the friends who have given us gifts of food, clothing, and household furnishings following the fire which completely destroyed our home. A special thank you to Poe Hardware for assisting us in so many ways. Charlie and Bertha Love. 4-11-1tp

CYRUS: The members of the Family of Mr. A. R. Cyrus wish to thank their many dear friends and neighbors for the kindness shown them during the loss of their loved one. Also for the food, visits, cards and beautiful flowers, which were a comfort to our hearts. May God bless each and everyone. The Family 4-11-1p

I wish to thank my friends, neighbors and relatives for their kindness shown me during my recent stay in the hospital. Also for the visits, cards and gifts. Grover Beasley, Sr. 4-11-1p

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Fruit Cup
Baked Ham Hawaiian
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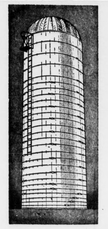

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NOTICE

Previously I had decided not to run again for the Town council. A number of voters have asked me to reconsider and to run. Consequently I will again be a candidate for re - election in the June election. Your vote in this election will be greatly appreciated. Ivey Holland. 4-11-1t

In view of the fact so many of my friends and voters of our District have urged me to become a candidate in the July Primary, I wish to announce to the voters and citizens of Stonewall District that I am a candidate for the office of the Board of Supervisors for Stonewall District.

I will endeavor to see each of you during the campaign.

I pledge to the citizens of Appomattox County that, if elected, I will exert every effort to serve our District and County to the very best of my ability.

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NOTICE

NOTICE: The Pipe - Liners are coming. If you have furnished apartments, Rooms, Trailer parking space, houses, etc for rent. Call my office and list what you have. C. Lewis McDearmon, Ap-

NOTICE: Announcing Mrs. Walter W. Scott, Representative for Luther Lectrand, Florist. Flowers for all occasions. Call Appomattox 352-7498 9-6-tf

To The Voters of Appomattox County
I wish to take this opportunity to tell the voters of Appomattox County that I am a candidate for the office of Commissioner of the Revenue
I have had training in this field and find that I can serve you honestly and efficiently.
I have lived in Appomattox County for three years since graduating from V.P.I. I am now employed as a teacher of Business Administration and Assistant Coach at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg. My duties have done not end until June 7th.
I hope to see each of you between July 8th primary election and trust you will give me your every consideration and support. Thank You,
Tommie O'Brien 4-4-tf

Interior and Exterior Painting. Free Estimate. Drop me a card. W. R. Tyree, Spout Spring, Va. 4-4-8p

To The Voters of Appomattox, County.
I am 59 years old and under State Police regulations could not be worked until January 1, 19-64, but close to retire early to run for sheriff of our county.
If elected I will draw no retirement pay from the State Police as long as I serve as an elected officer.
Your vote and support will be gratefully appreciated.
L. L. Stanley 4-11-1tp

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Political Notice

To the Voters of The Town of Appomattox:
I am a candidate for reelection to the Town Council of Appomattox, said election to be held June 11, 1963. I will appreciate your vote and support, and if elected, I will exert every effort to serve the Town to the best of my ability. Mrs. Calvin Robinson. 4-11-2p

TO VOTERS OF STONEWALL DISTRICT — I have filed my declaration of candidacy to enter the Democratic Primary of July 9, for re-election as Supervisor of the Stonewall District of Appomattox County. "I consider it a great privilege to serve the people of the Stonewall District and appreciate their confidence and trust in allowing me to represent them on the County Board of Supervisors during the last eight years. In filing my candidacy for re-election, I look forward to serving them on the Board of Supervisors for another term. I have always tried to serve the people of this district, without partiality, to the best of my ability, and will continue to do so if re-elected." O. W. Martin, Jr. 4-11-1p

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our Daddy, Mr. T. M. Martin, who departed this life, April 13, 1951.
April brings and memories of a loved one gone to rest.
You will never be forgotten by the ones who loved you best.
The years may wipe out many things,
But this they will wipe out never
The memory of those happy days
When we were all together.
Sadly missed by the children. 4-11-1c

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WAITRESS WANTED: Experience not necessary. Phone 352-7443 Parkway Restaurant. 4-11-1t

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WANTED: Farms, timberland, cutover land, businesses, anywhere. Free list of properties for sale. Landon Akins, Broker, Phone EX 2-4695 Farmville, Va., or H. P. Lair Phone 248-2153 Pamplin, Va. 1-3-tfp

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WANTED

Approximately 1 acres of land on railroad side or on 460 West of Appomattox, Describe land. Write Box 546, Appomattox, Va. 2-21-tf

Card Of Thanks

Our heartfelt thanks for the many kindnesses extended during the illness and passing of our sister, Mrs. Lora Gordon Mitchell. The Gordon Family. 4-11-1p

To the wonderful people who by word and deed helped to make my recent illness almost a pleasure, greetings from both my wife and me. Unable to see and thank each of you in person we take this means to do so. You have been wonderful. Judson Kilgore. 4-11-1p

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to our friends for their expression of sympathy during our recent bereavement. Family of W. O. Carson 4-11-1p

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many friends and neighbors for the kindness shown us during David's illness while in the University of Virginia and the Virginia Baptist Hospital and since his return home. Also for cards, gifts, visits and prayers. May God bless each of you. Thank you. Bobby and Mary Frances Bryant 4-11-1c

I wish to thank all the friends and relatives who remembered me with cards and an honor while I was in the hospital and since my return home. I shall never forget your kindness. (Miss) Faye Moore, Appomattox. 4-11-1tp

We wish to thank our friends, neighbors and relatives for their kindness and sympathy shown us during our recent bereavement. Also for the many floral designs. E. H. Marshall's Family. 4-11-1c

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Congratulations to these winners and our thanks to all our other little friends who submitted such pretty pictures.